

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 TRSE-00 /092 W
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R 101230Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6779
INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
US MISSION USUN NY 0942

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, AG, SS
SUBJECT: SAHARA: POST-LIBREVILLE DEVELOPMENTS

1. SPECIAL OAU SUMMIT: ALGERIAN PRESS JULY 9 REPORTS OVER
WEEKEND STATEMENTS BY OAU SECY GEN ETEKI AND
UNSYG WALDHEIM ON FUTURE SAHARA MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY.
ETEKI REPORTED AS HAVING SAID IN A RADIO INTER-
VIEW (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED) THAT LIBREVILLE DECISION
ON FUTURE LUSAKA SUMMIT WAS TAKEN WITH NO OPPOSITION,
THAT AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE HAD "UNDERTAKEN ENGAGEMENT
BEFORE HISTORY" IN ACCEPTING SUMMIT, AND THAT, SINCE
IT WAS NECESSARY" TO CONVENE THOSE WHO CLAIM TO
REPRESENT SAHRAOUI PEOPLE, POLISARIO WOULD
BE INVITED TO LUSAKA MEETING. ETEKI HEDGED LAST
STATEMENT SOMEWHAT BY SAYING THAT HE SPEAKING PERSON-
ALLY AND BY ADDING:"IF POLISARIO IS CONSIDERED REPRESENTATIVE
OF SAHRAOUI PEOPLE, THERE IS NO REASON WHY IT SHOULD
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NOT BE A LUSAKA."

2. FOR HIS PART, WALDHEIM IS QUOTED IN
PRESS AS HAVING SAID, IN INTERVIEW IN PARIS,
THAT SAHARA QUESTION WAS STILL BEFORE UNGA AND WOULD
BE DEALT WITH THERE IN FALL. WALDHEIM ALSO SAID TO HAVE
TAKEN NOTE OF OAU DECISION TO HOLD SUMMIT IN LUSAKA AND

TO HAVE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT "VERY SERIOUS" SOLUTION TO PROBLEM WOULD BE FOUND.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF JULY 8, FON MIN OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH AFRICAN AFFAIRS ALTHOUGH PLEASED WITH LIBREVILLE RESULT, WAS CAUTIOUS AS TO FUTURE AND NOTED THAT SPECIAL SUMMIT STILL "THEORETICAL." DECISION FOR BOUMEDIENE TO GO TO LIBREVILLE, OFFICIAL ADDED, HAD BEEN TAKEN AT LAST MINUTE WITHOUT CONSULTATION AT WORKING LEVEL OF FON MINISTRY. OFFICIAL NOTED THAT A DECISION AT LIBREVILLE TO CANCEL SPECIAL SUMMIT HAD BEEN DISTINCT POSSIBILITY AND IMPLIED THAT BOUMEDIENE'S ATTENDANCE MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO FORESTALL SUCH A MOVE.

4. ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR IN PARIS: WHILE GOA HAS NOT REACTED TO ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION IN PARIS OF MAURITANIAN AMBASSADOR OULD GHANAHALLAH, POLISARIO HAS ISSUED COMMUNIQUE INDIGNANTLY DENYING INVOLVMENT. SUCH AN ACT, COMMUNIQUE ASSERTS, CONTRARY TO PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH LATE SECY GEN EL OUALI FOUGHT, AND USE OF SUCH METHODS REPRESENTS DESPERATE ENEMY REACTION TO LATEST POLISARIO BATTLEFIELD SUCCESSES. ACCORDING TO PRESS, POLISARIO SPOKESMAN IN MADRID ECHOED LINE WE HAVE HEARD HERE THAT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT "WAS WORK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF COUNTER-ESPIONAGE SERVICES OF COUNTRIES, LIKE MOROCCO, WHICH ARE HOSTILE TO RIGHTS OF SAHRAOUI PEOPLE." PRESS ALSO CARRIES OUTRAGED STATEMENT BY PARIS-BASED ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OF SAHRAOUI REPUBLIC AND VARIOUS FOREIGN NEWSPAPER COMMENTS SUGGESTING THAT POLISARIO INVOLVMENT IN ATTEMPT UNLIKELY.

5. COMMENT: ALGERIAN PRESS' PHRASING OF ETEKI'S REMARKS SUGGESTS THAT HE MAY HAVE BEEN LESS FORTHCOMING ON SPECIAL SUMMIT AND POLISARIO REPRESENTATION THAN ALGERIANS WOULD HAVE LIKED.HAYNES

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Sent Date: 10-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition History: n/a
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